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The Pacific

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OL. 102 MAY, 1953 (First Issue Aug. 1, 1851) NO. 5

ROM THE UPERINTENDENT'S DESK

We who write the articles, columns nd news stories for "The Pacific" ave been encouraged by numerous tters. We are aware that we have avid readers," that errors are quickly otted, that the influence of this aper could easily be underestimated. When we write we are conscious that ose who receive "The Pacific" in the ail do read it and that what we write ust be accurate, well written and over all the concerns of our Confer- nce fellowship.

Our concerns are so many that some f them never receive the promotional mphasis these columns should give em. We hope our readers will re- ind us of our blind spots. For xample, one of our subscribers re- inded us that we hadn't mentioned Daily Devotions," the quarterly book- t of daily readings published by the ongregational Committee on Evan- elism and Devotional Life, designed o reinforce the spiritual lives of our ellowship. Most of our churches egularly order a supply for parish istribution. My personal testimony is hat nothing finer than "Daily Devo- ons" is being published today in this eld. Thousands more in our church- s ought to use it and "let their eading guide their living."

A pastor, who has been a chaplain, eminded me that sometime we should ay something about the need for haplains. In 1952, the Congregation- lists provided only 11 men for active uty with the armed forces. We should ave provided over twice that number. Here is a field of ministerial service o men and women away from home hat requires the highest standards of raining and experience. Serving as a haplain combines all the satisfactions f a minister — preaching, pastoral ork, counselling, the sacraments and lso in a real sense it involves church xtension and missionary service.

Have we said anything lately about Advance," our national bi-weekly agazine? It was never better than it s today. More of our churches ught to enroll in the 10% club—ten er cent of the families of the church ubscribing to "Advance." There are pecial rates, too. It's surprising how asy it is to obtain the 10% with an rganized approach to the parish. Usually a small committee accepts the hallenge, orders a kit of sample copies nd promotional supplies, and with magination and hustle discovers hat people are eager to subscribe o become informed Congregational hurches.

I met a member in one of our maller churches who came to this ountry from Holland. He formerly elonged to a Dutch church but found ur local Congregational Church con- enient and congenial. He said that e attended the annual Conference at Oakland last year and that "I returned aving learned not only what Congre- gationalism is but proud to be one."

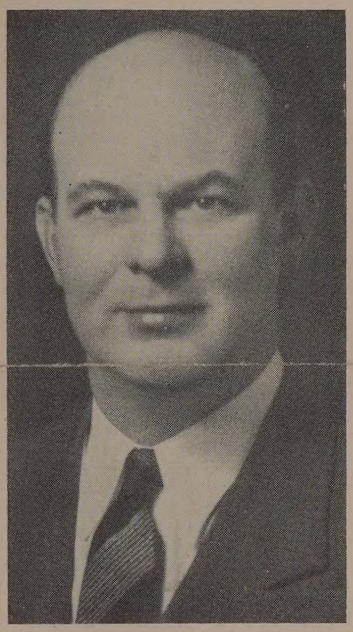
Everyone is invited to the annual Conference meeting. Some are entitled o vote as delegates, but many others ttend as visitors to listen and learn, o meet others and share in the free nd open discussions of the Confer- nce business and interests. I hope to greet hundreds of you there!

Wm David Pratt

ANNUAL CONFERENCE MEETING SPEAKERS

Alice Shepard Riggs of Thessaloniki, Greece, is a Congregational missionary who has spent the past four decades in the Near East. Born in Turkey, the daughter of a famous American Board missionary surgeon, she was educated in America.

Mrs. Riggs, the wife of the late Ernest W. Riggs, President of Anatolia College until 1950, has found her recent Near East years packed with adventure and responsibilities. World War II stopped all schools in Greece, and Anatolia College buildings were used to care for Greek wounded and then taken over by the invading German Army. Nazi troops were only a brief distance away when Mr. and Mrs. Riggs fled from Thessaloniki down the historic road of escape once used by St. Paul. At the end of World War II, Mr. and Mrs. Riggs went back to Anatolia College and guided it through the critical period of the waxing and waning of the Communist effort to bring Greece behind the Iron Curtain. Mrs. Riggs will speak at the women's luncheon on Saturday and again on Sunday afternoon at the closing session of the Conference.



Dr. Truman B. Douglass of New York City, Executive Vice-President of our Board of Home Missions, will highlight our Conference program with three major addresses. In his important national denominational post, Dr. Douglass is responsible for leadership in the total sphere of activities under The Board of Home Missions in the continental United States, Puerto Rico and Alaska, as carried on through the American Missionary Association, the Church Extension Division, the Division of Christian Education, the Ministerial Relief Division, the Pilgrim Press, the Radio Committee, the Commission on Evangelism and the Laymen's Fellowship. In its "modern pioneering" program, The Board of Home Missions under Dr. Douglass' leadership has done remarkable work in the field of race relations; in radio; in aid to State Conferences in organizing new churches; in strengthening existing churches in strategic areas; and in work on college campuses. Dr. Douglass will speak on Friday afternoon at 2:15, on Saturday noon at the Men's Luncheon, and at the 11 o'clock service on Sunday.

ELECT YOUR DELEGATES

Each church may have as many persons in attendance at the State Conference meeting as can be secured, and there will be quotas of registration fees to bear the expense of the Conference including ministers' mileage pools; but the voting delegates are restricted in number.

Each church, however small, is entitled to two delegates, and one additional delegate for each 100 members in excess of the first 200, but no church may have more than five. These delegates should, of course, be officially elected and notified in advance of their coming to Conference.

Registration cards and programs with instructions regarding reservations for hotels and meals are being mailed to all delegates.

A preview of the program shows that the committee has done careful and considerate planning to make this the finest Annual Conference Meeting yet. They have provided the program—let us provide the attendance!

Open Doorways

Just a few hours after arriving in San Francisco from his 32-day tour of the Far East, the Rev. Armstrong Hunter of Boston, spoke at San Francisco First Congregational Church on his impressions after seeing some of the places where our American Board is at work.

"There are places in the world where people have to sleep in doorways. We saw some of them," said Mr. Hunter, "in Hong Kong, Manila, Tokyo. There are millions of people in the world who must go to sleep each night hungry. We saw some of them in these same cities. But we saw also strong churches, led by able Filipinos and Chinese and Japanese, which are working to change the conditions under which some of their countryymen live, which are demonstrating our Christian faith in wonderful ways.

"Their work is important to us in a way we might not have sensed before. For the people who need help want help . . . and they are going to get it. If the help is Christian, there will be certain consequences. If it is something else, there will be other consequences. But what happens to the people who sleep in doorways, the hungry, the poorly clothed, determines **our** future. And what **we** do—together with vigorous 'foreign' Christian churches—is the measure of our very faith."

CAZADERO SCHEDULE

Camp leaflets giving most of the details on our 1953 camps have been mailed. Additional copies may be secured by writing our Christian Education office. May is the month to recruit our young people for attendance at camps. Our directors are lining up strong faculties and planning unusually interesting programs. Plan to send lots of your young people to camp this summer.

PASTORAL CHANGES

Rev. Ray Keeble has accepted the position of interim pastor at the Mira Vista Church of El Cerrito. He was formerly pastor of our Sebastopol Church and has been studying for an advanced degree at Pacific School of Religion.

Redwood City has called the Rev. David M. Held of Oak Lawn, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago. Mr. Held will begin his new duties on July 1. He has had a very successful pastorate at Oak Lawn, leading the church in successive building projects and phenomenal growth in membership.

Rev. E. L. Spaulding has asked to be relieved of the pastoral duties at La Selva Beach on account of his health. Mr. Spaulding has ministered here for the past year and is a retired minister of the Northern Baptist fellowship. He has been loved by all at La Selva Beach and has been a most cooperative and fraternal pastor in our fellowship.

Rev. Joseph Bennett has resigned the pastorate at Cloverdale after three years of service. Previously he has served churches in this Conference since 1927, at Campbell, Loomis and Pilgrim in San Francisco.

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PEOPLE AND PLACES

The Calaveras County churches, Murphys and Angels Camp, are forming a larger parish under the leadership of the Rev. William Holladay. They expect to call another minister to serve the small ranching, mining and logging communities in this historic Mother Lode country. Dr. Wesley Hotchkiss, director of research for the Board of Home Missions, met recently with the planning committee of these churches. Our Christian World Mission represented by our Conference appropriations will include assistance to this extension of Congregational work through a larger parish in this county.

Dr. Wesley Hotchkiss spent the period from April 19 to May 3 in the Conference. He has conducted a survey for the First Church of Oakland, trained census workers for the Fruitvale Church in Oakland, visited Calaveras County, visited Modoc County to present our larger parish with a certificate as a "Parish of Promise" and to counsel with leaders there, and finally to attend the annual Conference of the German Churches at Sanger. He has made a lasting contribution to our Conference life.

Dr. Galen Fisher was honored last month by hundreds of his friends on his 80th birthday. Dr. Fisher has been identified with every good cause in Northern California during his lifetime. "The Pacific" joins its voice to the multitude of persons and groups sending felicitations. Dr. Fisher has been a director and a moderator of the Conference and one of its devoted friends over the years.

Dr. and Mrs. Vere V. Loper of First Church, Berkeley, left for a four months trip to Europe and the Middle East on April 19. Dr. Loper will lead a seminar group at the International Congregational Council in Scotland in June. During his absence, the Rev. David Stowe will be the preacher and minister in charge of the church.

Dr. Royal Lincoln Wirt, who has served Conference churches over the years, celebrated his 90th birthday at Claremont, where he is supposed to be in "retirement." However, he is the active pastor of the Etiwanda Church near Claremont.

Mr. Curtis Schumacher, church finance advisor of our Board of Home Missions, conducted a building fund campaign for the Church of the Valley of San Jose, May 4 to 10. Rev. John Carroll, pastor, and his membership have prepared for this event in the expectation of reaching a $15,000 goal.

Mr. Stuart Thompson, the charter member of Ripon, has just returned from a visit to his native North Ireland and reports visiting Congregational churches and being invited to address church groups there.

Rev. Arthur L. Rice, who for 16 years was in the Northern California Conference and has recently served the Mt. Laki Community Church near Klamath Falls, Oregon, has resigned because of ill health. Mr. Rice leaves a beautiful new $60,000 church in Mt. Laki, which was dedicated free of debt and a church membership three times what it was when Mr. Rice became pastor. . "The Magic Glasses," a fantasy for children, and Mr. Rice's first book, came from the Vantage Press early this year. In addition to the interesting story, it brings a wholesome teaching and has been well received by all who have read it.

Rev. Charles C. Marshall, since 1915 a member of this Conference, passed away in Honolulu on March 19, after three years illness. Mr. Marshall was a native of Iowa, educated at Oberlin and Yale. After pastorates in the Middle West, he came to Sunnyvale where he held two pastorates.

Congressman Arthur Younger's recorded "Report from Washington" was a part of a recent Men's Club meeting at San Mateo Church. Congressman Younger is a member of the Congregational Church in San Mateo.

ASILOMAR CONFERENCE

Outstanding leadership has been secured for the 1953 Missionary Education Movement training conference at Asilomar, July 31 to August 5, according to recent announcement by the Dean, Dr. Kenneth G. Hobart.

Coming from New York City to teach the foreign mission text-book will be Dr. Glora M. Wysner, one of the secretaries of the International Missionary Council.

Teaching the home mission text-book, "Within These Borders" by John R. Scotford, will be Dr. Paul L. Warnshuis of Los Angeles.

Each morning there will be an interpretative address on the Life and Work of the Church around the World. Speaking the first two mornings primarily on missions among Spanish-speaking peoples of America will be our superintendent, the Rev. William D. Pratt.

Interpretation of the foreign aspect of the world mission will be made in three addresses by Dr. George M. Derbyshire of Oakland; Bishop Donald H. Tippett, just returned from a visit to Methodist missions in Africa, will bring a vivid report on his impressions and observations in that continent; Audio Visual Workshop each day at 5:00 p.m. will be conducted by the Rev. K. L. Holst of Church Film Libraries, Pasadena.

LOAN FUND CAMPAIGN PROGRESSES

Two more names have been added to our list of churches having accepted goals in the Church Building Loan Fund Campaign, San Francisco St. John's Federated and Berkeley South. This brings our total pledged to $123,804. We are still almost $24,000 short of reaching our assigned goal of $147,000 for the Conference.

Quota Notes and Quotes reprinted the following letter from the Rev. Herbert C. Gans, minister of Petaluma Congregational Church: "To us the Church Building Loan Fund Campaign is not just another appeal for money. Mrs. Gans and I expect to make a pledge with a view to the future of our children and grandchildren and our country. This money will not be spent in 1953 and then be no more. It is in a real sense 'immortal money'. Long after we are gone money which we earned will be working for God and His Kingdom as we have tried to work. This to us is the important part in the Church Building Loan Fund."

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, STOCKTON

The setting for our Annual Conference Meeting this year is the very beautiful church of Stockton. The address is 116 West Willow Street. The Rev. Noel J. Breed will be the host pastor.

The Stockton Church was organized in September 1865 by a Church Council composed of seven or eight churches, the minister of First Church San Francisco, having an important part. The first building was on Miner Avenue and Central Methodist built on the corner within a few years. In 1910 a new building was erected at Park and Hunter which served until the first part of the present building was completed in 1930. In 1940 an extensive work of remodeling was carried through and the present structure is the result. The church has a set of Schulmeric carillonic bells, presented by one of its women's groups in 1948.

The early pastorates were brief, and no ministerial name of any significance today can be found until 1889 when the Rev. Henry Reuben Sink, D.D., began his work in Stockton. In 1918 he became Pastor Emeritus, remaining an honored father in Israel until his death in 1940. The Rev. Harley H. Gill, D.D., 1918-1923, the Rev. Hugh Vernon White, 1923-31, the Rev. John Henry Hahn, 1931-33, the Rev. Noel J. Breed since 1933.

Thus it can be seen that in 64 years the church has had only five ministers. In 1951 the church called the Rev. Earnest D. Lidell as associate minister and director of Christian Education. Conference attendants will have many opportunities to come in contact with the church secretary, Mrs. Hope Loomis, who has been with the church since 1948.

ILLUSTRATED ADDRESSES

Congregational Chaplain Edwin R. Howard, at the Mare Island Naval Base, has kodachrome illustrated addresses on Korea and Japan, describing the work of the Church World Service and religious life in these countries. He offers to show his pictures and speak to churches in this area. Write him at 125 Granville, Vallejo.

CLOTHES ARE NEEDED

Church World Service has recently sent out an urgent request for relief clothing. They need our help in materially increasing the intake of clothing in 1953, particularly during the next three months and in the Fall. Heretofore, CWS has requested 10c per pound in order to make the program self-sustaining. This has now been reduced to 8c per pound. Some churches may want to give clothing—others contributions for the poundage. The reward in giving clothing through Church World Service is that from the time you contribute until the time the material reaches its final destination, it is never out of the Church's hands.

FAIRFAX ANNIVERSARY

Fairfax Community Church celebrated its thirtieth birthday anniversary Sunday, April 26, at the morning worship.

Principal participants were Dr. Stuart Leroy Anderson, president of Pacific School of Religion at Berkeley, who gave the anniversary address; the Rev. James W. Montgomery, pastor; and the Rev. Rudolph Caughey of Kentfield, pastor emeritus.

This ceremony marked the church's 30 years of community service, not only as a religious center, but also as a meeting place for community youth and civic groups.

Historically, the church grew out of a group of Protestant women under the leadership of Mrs. P. M. Paulsen who called themselves, then as now, the Dorcas Society. The church was built in 1923 under supervision of Robert Roy, present building inspector of Fairfax.

Nine resident active members who joined in 1923 as charter members are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Roy, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Uhte, Mrs. Nettie Adams. Mrs. Jennie Benson, Mrs. Katherine Dupree, Mrs. Anna Hansen, Mrs. Florence Diercks. Five others who joined in the 1920's and are still active are Mrs. Rosalia Hurt, Mrs. Louise Johnson. Miss Geraldine Johnson, and Mr. and Mrs. Rad Ingram.

SAN MATEO—The effort to raise $85,000 for the expansion of the sanctuary and for other needed improvements is progressing satisfactorily. Two meetings were held in April of those who will serve in calling on homes in the parish for support of the building expansion project.

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES ON THE JOB

SAN JOSE, CHURCH OF THE VALLEY—The thrilling news is of- ial; the Church Building Society has proved the church's application for loan of $40,000 toward the building the first unit. The action of the uilding Society is a vote of confidence the church and community. There ere $700,000 in applications from urches all across the land and less an $250,000 in cash available. The urch feels it has been blessed. mended preliminary plans are on eir way to New York; working draw- gs will then be produced by the chitect, and contracts let. The local uilding fund drive will be held on unday afternoon, May 10.

LODI—Climaxing the Lenten Sea- n were the many events of Holy eek. Beginning with Palm Sunday, ere were two morning worship rvices at which the children took art and in the evening the Plymouth ayers presented the drama, "He ives"; on Maundy Thursday evening ere was a communion service and ception of 25 new members; par- ipation in the Sunrise Service Easter orning and two identical morning orship services in the church on Eas- r morning at which 744 people at- nded; and the baptism of children the afternoon concluded the week. r. Stanley U. North recently spoke the church on the problem of uilding a new church on a new site r the present site, or the possibility f renovation of the present building ith additions to accommodate the rowing needs of the Sunday School. fter time for consideration, study and rayer, a congregational meeting is be- g held on May 1, at which time a ote will be taken on which plan hould be adopted.

CONCORD, HILLCREST — The pening of the educational unit has nade a great difference in the Church chool and church attendance. March 5, the first Sunday the new unit was n use, 290 children attended Church chool and 155 adults attended hurch. The educational unit is al- eady overflowing. In the future hurch School and morning worship vill have to go on double session.

FRESNO, FIRST—Three identical Easter morning services were held, at- ended by 2,397 including 657 chil- ren in the church school. $2,182 vas received in the special Easter offering for the Church Building Loan Fund as a part of the $5,400 goal ccepted by the church. Total Lenten hurch attendance was 5,669, or an verage of 700 per Sunday. Series of ight sermons on "This We Believe" lealing with the basic affirmations of he Congregational faith has been printed and made available to members n booklet form. The 24 forum pro- grams were attended by 7,825 people with an offering of $2,809.29 and sponsorship gifts of $1,200. A series of 28 programs for the 1953-54 season costing $5,000 has now been booked to be presented on the Sunday eve- nings of September 27 through April 4 ,1954.

OAKLAND, FIRST — The Good Friday services arranged by the Oak- land Council of Churches were held this year in this church. It was in- spiring to see the crowds in attend- ance. On Easter, too, the entire church was filled to overflowing at both the 9 o'clock and the 11 o'clock services. The offering that day was given to the Congregational Building Loan Fund. Preparations are under way for a reception to honor Dr. and Mrs. Clarence Reidenbach. Dr. Reid- enbach is completing his 20th year as pastor of this church.

PESCADERO COMMUNITY — Dedication services of the new parish hall and other church improvements were conducted by Supt. William D. Pratt on Sunday afternoon, April 12. The new parish hall will provide an additional 1000 square feet of room for religious education, church social programs and other services. With many hours of voluntary labor, the total cost of the improvements was $5,000, less than half the estimated value of the addition. Members and friends have financed the work through contributions and a local loan of $2500. Among other improvements made at the same time were new tinted windows for the sanctuary, im- proved heating system and a piano given by a long-time member, Mrs. Helen Stewart. The church site has been subject to flood waters until re- cently. In cooperation with the county officials the low land has been filled to protect the property. Historical authorities have marked the site of the church as a camp ground of Portola.

RIPON—The church has a new garage! At 8:30 a. m., April 11, nothing was there but the foundation, the work of two church members. Then eight other members got busy and at 4:30 p.m. there stood the gar- age! The building was cooperatively financed by the Ladies' Aid, Ladies' Auxiliary and voluntary contributions. Another innovation is the monthly church night, with potluck supper, and a movie or other entertainment. These occasions are attracting good turnouts.

OAKLAND, NEW PILGRIM — There was a good attendance at all of the Holy Week services this year. Ten new members were received at the Maundy Thursday Communion and Tenebrae service. The exterior of the church has recently been painted and plans are being drawn for Sunday School rooms and a parsonage. The painting was done by the men of the church, with the ladies furnishing the meals.

SAN CARLOS, COMMUNITY CHURCH — 1400 people attended three Easter morning services at The Community Church of San Carlos. Services were held at 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 o'clock. Thirty Pilgrim Fellow- shippers attended their Sunrise Service in the hills. The high school group followed the service with an Easter breakfast at the home of Bleecker Cooke. On Palm Sunday 17 children and adults were baptized, bringing to 25 the total number baptized since the first of the year. Two hundred and thirty people attended the Candlelight Communion and Office of Tenebrae on Maundy Thursday evening. Nine- teen new members were received, bringing to 66 the number received since the first of the year.

SAN JOSE, FIRST—The families of the Church School and others oc- casionally had sacrificial meals at home and nearly 100 gathered on Maundy Thursday before the Candlelight Com- munion for an "austerity meal," bring- ing the difference in the cost of these meals to the Communion table as scholarships for tuition for the four brothers and sisters of a Korean or- phan boy, whom one of the church families has taken into their home. His name is Sung-ho New. He has become a memer of the church, sings in the adult choir, and has been one of the principal actors in two church pageants. The goal was $48 (four tuitions at $12 a year) but the gift was $128. Now help can be given to others in Pusan, Korea.

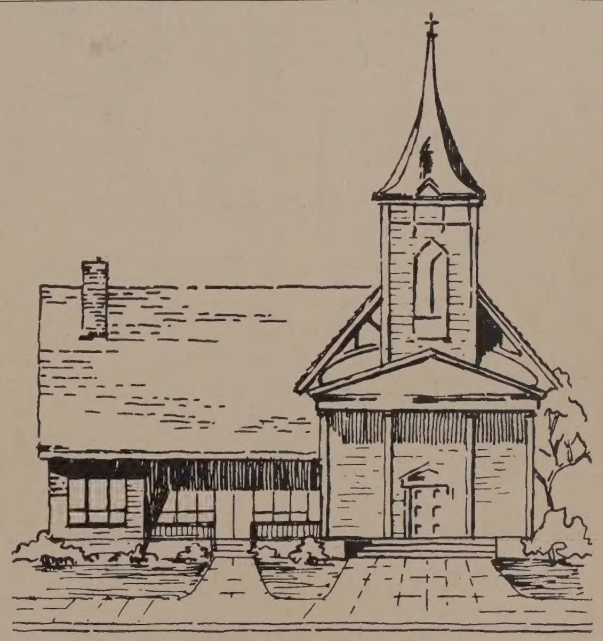
REDWOOD CITY — Rev. David M. Held, of the Oaklawn Church near Chicago, will assume his pastoral duties here on July 1. This is wel- come news indeed to the congregation, which has really rallied splendidly in support of all church activities during the six months interim. Grading of the new site will begin in May. The Building Society has approved the plans submitted with warm praise. A hobby show is scheduled for Saturday afternoon and evening, May 9. The Women's Fellowship's Dollar Talent Quest increased the original stake seven-fold. Its fourth birthday will be celebrated on May 5 with a program featuring Otis Carrington, well known composer of school operettas, who has been a member of this church for 45 years.

ANGEL'S CAMP and MURPHYS —The Church Building Loan Fund is going well, with more than half of the Angel's Camp goal pledged, and a little less than half in Murphys. The Murphys Church has been completely rewired, with indirect lighting and new curtains installed Easter week. Maun- dy Thursday communion services were held in both churches, three new members in Angel's, one in Murphys. Easter services: 200 at a 9:30 a.m. service (150 last year at an 11:30 service) in Angel's, 95 in Murphys (this has not happened in years!)

ORINDA COMMUNITY — The young people's sunrise service and two identical church services at the Orinda Theatre gave Community Church leaders a busy Easter, but lots of people cooperated to make it a mem- orable day—1,155 worshippers attend- ed the services. The choir never sounded better. The day was beautiful. Superintendent Pratt spoke most help- fully. Thirty-one new members were received during Holy Week.

OAKLAND, PLYMOUTH — The Missionary Committee of the church has set aside the evening of Friday, June 5, as "Hawaiian Holiday." Koda- chrome pictures will be shown by John Finger, Herbert Sack, Marion Avery and Harold Avery. The Hawaiian theme will be carried out in decora- tions, music, costumes, dancing. Pro- ceeds will be divided among Cazadero Camp, Church Building Loan Fund, and Pacific School of Religion.

BERKELEY, FIRST—The offering on Easter Sunday which was given toward the church's own building fund debt and the national building fund amounted to approximately $9,000.00. April 19 was the last Sunday Dr. Loper will be in the pulpit until Sunday, September 6. Mrs. Loper and he sailed on the Queen Elizabeth April 22, and will spend four months in travel through the Middle East, Europe and the British Isles.



FERNDALE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The architect's sketch above shows the new appearance of the Congre- gational Church at Ferndale. Located in the rich valley of the Eel River in Humboldt County, Ferndale is chiefly a dairy farm community. The old church building, erected fifty years ago, is being completely remodeled and enlarged. Formerly it was a one-room church with a small auxiliary room. The alterations will provide an enlarged sanctuary with beautiful chancel, glass partitioned room for parents with babies to observe and hear the worship service, youth center rooms, and many new rooms for religious education.

Under the leadership of the Rev. Robert Lewis, now in his fourth year as pastor, the members of the church are giving many hours of volunteer labor as well as providing the finances for the project. Last year this church pur- chased a new $12,000 parsonage.

Using the theme, "Adequate for Tomorrow," the members recognized that the old building served its time and was a testimony of the courage and generosity of an older generation, but "program changes need to be made with each new generation." Stressing the needs of a church that is adequate for tomorrow, the congregation has raised and spent on the project to date over $12,000 and provided hundreds of hours of volunteer work. A year ago the church had only 56 members, a budget of $6,000, an old building, and no parsonage.

Now the church has 116 members, a budget of over $8,000, a new manse, and will soon complete the new building. It all began when the pastor and people said to one another, "We had a church adequate for yesterday. We must make it adequate for tomorrow."

WOMEN'S FEDERATION NEWS

MRS. JOHN HARRISON, Correspondent

The next gathering of the Congregational women will be at the luncheon May 23, during the ninety-seventh annual Conference at First Church, in Stockton. Conference dates: May 22-23-24, 1953.

The annual Spring Meeting of the Federation of Northern California Congregational Women was held at First Church, Berkeley, on Thursday, April 16. President Mrs. Gail Cleland presided. The beautiful organ music by Mr. Kenneth W. Jewell and "Build Thee More Stately Mansions," sung by Ruth Stahlke Johnson, added much pleasure to the varied program. Dr. Vere Loper led the opening prayer and the closing worship service. Reports of recording secretary, treasurer and auditor were given after greetings and welcome from Mrs. Horace Strong of the host church.

Following the report of the nominating committee by Mrs. William Pemberton, the proposed nominees were duly elected and later installed in an impressive service of dedication by Mrs. Bayard Buckham.

An imaginary airplane, helicopter, balloon and other vehicles of the "Space Patrol," directed by Ruth Edwards assisted by Mrs. Siegrist, took us on interesting journeys as the secretaries told of the interesting things done during the year. A very remarkable presentation. Where did they get all those pictures? Sorry, no room for the reports.

"Rejoicing in Our Task," the theme of the Spring Meeting, gained reality as we heard the reports of the Association presidents. Mrs. Lewis Taylor gave another unique method of presentation. Each president as she went to the front to give her report handed to Mrs. Lewis a part of a beautiful rose-colored hostess gown, which she pinned upon Mrs. Cleland. Beginning with the right front representing the Bay Association, the gown was completed by a wide sash from the Redwood Empire, symbolic of the unity binding all the Associations together. The good reports of work being done in the local groups contained several suggestions that those present may pass on to home groups. To sum up it has been a good year. Women are busy with worthwhile projects for their own churches and for the wider fellowship. Mrs. Cleland expressed it vividly later when she compared each woman to a tiny wire in a cable strong enough to suspend a bridge and each church to a lock in a canal lifting great ships to an ever higher level. "Church women are part of something great." Motto for 1953, "Hands That Are Strong."

During the delightful lunch hour, Mrs. Vere Loper presiding, we were glad to welcome a far from home visitor, Mrs. Malcolm Buell, one of four vice-presidents of the women's groups, from Milford, Conn.

Did YOU register? Women numbering 280 did but there were close to 350 lunches served, which shows many women did not register. **Please watch it** next time.

A CORRECTION: The "Well Project" is for **India, not Africa,** as stated. A letter from Mrs. Joseph Moulton told of the worst famine in the history of India. In her area alone 100 wells are useless that would supply water to thousands if deepened. Mrs. Buckham suggested that each local group try to send $10.00 for a well. Send to Mr. Pratt's office; it can be credited to your missionary quota. Also 25 orders for $25.00 for bags will keep the sisal bag factories going through the year.

Excerpts from the address of the day, "Christ at the Heart of a Free World, by Mr. David Pratt: This should be the message of the church today. In spite of the frustration of wars past and present, and the suffering of innocent people, the hope for peace and freedom still remains. More people than ever know that the cry of the heart is not satisfied by the number of things possessed. The political world has no need for a new order but to fulfill the eternal plan as outlined by the "Man of Galilee." Emotional excitement cannot abide but our Christian zeal must be renewed constantly by church attendance, study, prayer and daily Bible reading. What is the place of Jesus Christ in our lives and our churches? Be sure that programs and committees are not substituted for the "real thing," that those coming to our church will see a creative core of sincere people. The early Christians knew that the out and out love of God was more than they deserved and went out winning people, no matter what the cost, and it did cost them and will cost us, too. It is a great responsibility that no one refuses to join a church because of something I do or leave undone. Numbers is not the all important thing in a church, but living and service. The success of any church depends upon those who put Christ in the center of their lives.

Mrs. Cleland urged all Association presidents to attend the Retreat at Cazadero June 1-2-3, also presidents, program and devotional chairmen of local groups. The cost will be $5.00 for the three days. Send registrations to Mrs. John L. Pastorino, 1186 Glen Avenue, Berkeley 8.

A GOOD SHOWING

After a slight decrease at the end of March, our apportionment giving has forged ahead this month with a substantial gain over the same period last year. Receipts from One Great Hour of Sharing helped swell the total, which means that our regular apportionment giving must be kept high if we maintain this gain throughout the year.

	App't Jan. 11 to Apr. 30,'52	App't Jan. 11 to Apr. 30,'53
Alameda	$ 385.35	$ 410.83
Alturas	10.00	10.00
Angel's Camp	100.00	123.50
Antioch	576.94	530.79
Auburn	115.00	190.00
Benicia	38.00	150.85
Berkeley, Arlington	533.43	1,078.59
Chinese	42.00	39.50
First	4,590.63	6,632.44
North	435.33	963.65
Northbrae	400.00	—
South	389.79	476.06
Biola	—	8.53
Campbell	250.00	161.07
Cedarville	81.10	33.83
Cloverdale	25.00	61.15
Concord, Hillcrest	44.68	277.00
Cotati	9.20	49.90
Crockett	105.87	66.60
Eagleville	17.61	62.35
El Cerrito, Mira Vista	8.40	—
Elk Grove	72.30	266.05
Etna	130.09	138.97
Eureka	292.27	294.63
Fairfax	117.50	154.80
Ferndale	34.90	150.60
Fort Bidwell	—	33.75
Fowler	—	75.00
Fresno, First	1,610.46	2,350.00
Japanese	229.87	—
Zion	—	70.24
Glen Ellen	—	7.25
Guerneville	151.32	51.71
Hayward	600.00	1,461.25
Kenwood	5.35	15.35
La Selva Beach	31.87	—
Lodi, Ebenezer	—	9.55
First	741.58	1,443.66
Loleta	8.36	10.11
Loomis	100.00	100.00
Los Gatos, Skyland	27.89	28.75
Martinez	366.53	1,545.85
Modesto	47.20	—
Murphys	68.00	97.50
Niles	50.00	34.23
Oakland, First	2,250.00	2,205.00
Fruitvale	92.15	78.00
Japanese	—	60.00
New Pilgrim	141.67	192.54
Plymouth	823.16	794.22
Orinda	570.73	419.62
Oroville	639.05	300.00
Palo Alto	1,695.12	1,169.29
Paradise	255.00	325.00
Parlier	10.00	10.00
Penngrove	9.75	38.24
Pescadero	5.00	7.77
Petaluma	489.75	332.96
Pittsburg	132.26	242.35
Port Chicago	—	26.55
Porterville	750.00	750.00
Redwood City	658.54	533.24
Rio Vista	12.00	50.00
Ripon	235.90	227.45
Sacramento, First	845.60	862.50
Oak Park	36.41	60.25
Sierra Arden	166.68	—
Salida	50.00	41.97
San Carlos	740.00	845.00
San Francisco—		
Beth. Miss. P'k	38.00	60.00
Calvary Arm'n.	—	50.00
First	524.10	1,147.44
Park Presidio	444.17	443.81
Pilgrim	102.82	87.05
St. John's	71.01	102.42
Sanger	28.96	—
San Jose	743.62	733.32
San Leandro	30.45	44.06
San Lorenzo	150.00	120.00
San Mateo	1,900.00	1,660.00
San Rafael	111.25	160.06
Santa Cruz	490.55	660.30
Santa Rosa	131.65	79.60
Saratoga	363.98	449.08
Sebastopol	437.31	292.61
Sonoma	50.00	75.00
Soquel	90.65	96.10
Stockton	679.76	818.67
Suisun	143.70	115.06
Sunnyvale	112.25	87.45
Sunol	117.35	82.96
Tulare	460.00	532.00
Weaverville	135.63	106.95
Woodside	81.96	139.85
Reno, Nevada	212.85	331.65
Pilgrim Fellowship	923.17	908.57
Miscellaneous	174.88	104.66
	$32,202.66	$38,726.51

SACRAMENTO, FIRST—A recent letter from the Rev. Torrance Phelps, minister, reports that his church is having its greatest year. The attendance is high, the budget is over-subscribed and a special Building Fund appeal resulted in a pledge of $7350—the second largest in the Conference.

REV. GODFREY MATTHEWS

Rev. Godfrey Matthews, retired minister of this Conference and a member of the Orinda Community Church, passed away on Saturday morning, May 2. Mr. Matthews was born in Middlebrough, England, May 30, 1991. He was educated at the University of Edinburgh and Yorkshire United Seminary. He was ordained September 23, 1910 by the Congregational Church, Hernehill, London, which he was then serving. Mr. Matthews came to the United States in 1913 and served churches in Utah, Arizona, and Oregon, in addition to pastorates in Northern California. He is survived by his wife, the former Miss Emyr Sanford of Ogden, Utah.

THE WORLD AT YOUR DOOR

One thing we can all do for world understanding is to invite some of the thousands of foreign students now studying in this country into our churches, our communities and our homes.

Carnation, Washington had a most successful experience with 23 foreign exchange students from the University of Washington. The whole town participated. Signs in store windows said, "Carnation Entertains the World." The visitors came from six different countries from Finland to India. They were not entertained in a recreational manner, but instead they just "dropped in" to see how a rural American community lives. They were entertained in homes of the community, as arranged by the Congregational Church. They were treated to sodas at the drug store, visited farms and homes, attended church services, and were entertained at a community potluck supper.

Many a student from another land has spent his four years of college in this country without ever being in an American home. This is a poor way to help gain friends and seek for better understanding between people.

How Our Conference Grows—1951-1952

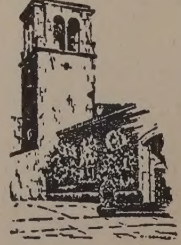
As Revealed by the Cumulative Year Book Statistics

	1951	1952	Gain or Loss
Number of churches	101	103	+2
Total membership	29,911	31,507	+1,596
New members	2,990	3,872	+ 882
Received on Confession	1,326	1,847	+ 521
Members lost, all reasons	2,313	1,967	(fewer) 346
Church School enrollment	18,253	19,021	+ 768
Youth	4,284	3,350	— 934
Conference receipts	$ 53,482	$ 50,955	—$ 2,527
Gifts to Mission Boards	59,378	64,988	+ 5,610
OCWM total giving	112,860	115,943	+ 3,083
Total local church expenses	901,714	1,015,029	+ 113,315
Total value property	8,301,370	9,407,933	+ 1,106,563

Chapel of the Chimes

AT OAKLAND and SANTA ROSA

ABOVE GROUND BURIAL... *Under Endowed Care*



Oakland

The Oakland Chapel is the largest and most beautiful in the United States...with three Chapels, seven lovely gardens, Great Organ and Chimes.

The Santa Rosa Chapel is set in its own charming gardens and is equipped for Cremation Service or Mausoleum Crypts for entire casket.

Santa Rosa

Visitors are always welcome at either establishment.

OAKLAND—4499 Piedmont Avenue

SANTA ROSA—One mile south on 101